

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A control panel assembly for a washing machine, comprising:

a board having a switch and parts mounted thereon;

a control panel installed at one side of a cabinet of the washing machine, wherein the control panel covers and protects the board;

a display plate mounted on the control panel; ~~and~~

a knob connected to the switch to penetrate the control panel, wherein a rear end of the knob partially contacts a backside of the display plate; and

a support provided between the board and the knob, wherein the support holds the knob at a slant with respect to the backside of the control panel and wherein the support makes one side of the rear end of the knob adhere closely to the backside of the display plate while the other side of the rear end of the knob is separated from the backside of the control panel.

2. (Previously Presented) The control panel assembly as claimed in claim 1, wherein a top of the rear end of the knob is brought into line-contact with the backside of the display plate.

3. (Original) The control panel assembly as claimed in claim 1, wherein a rear end surface of the knob and the backside of the control panel are arranged to differ in angles.
4. (Currently Amended) The control panel assembly as claimed in claim 1, wherein the knob comprises a flange extending from a circumference of a rear end thereof, and wherein the flange makes line-contact with the backside of the display plate.
5. (Original) The control panel assembly as claimed in claim 4, wherein a front side of the flange and the backside of the control panel are arranged to differ in angles.
- 6-8. Canceled.
9. (Currently Amended) The control panel assembly as claimed in claim 1 [[6]], wherein the support encloses the switch.
10. (Currently Amended) The control panel assembly as claimed in claim 1 [[6]], wherein the support comprises a first face extending inward from an inner circumference of the support to support the rear end of the knob at a slant with respect to the backside of the control panel.

11. (Currently Amended) The control panel assembly as claimed in claim 1 [[6]], wherein the support comprises a cut-away portion provided at one side of the support to reduce a contact area between the rear end of the knob and the support.

12. (Currently Amended) A control panel assembly of a washing machine, comprising:
a board having a switch and parts mounted thereon;
a control panel installed at one side of a cabinet of the washing machine, wherein the control panel covers and protects the board, the control panel having an opening;
a display plate mounted at the opening, wherein a hole is formed at a center of the display plate; and
a knob connected to the switch to penetrate the opening of the control panel wherein a rear end of the knob partially contacts a backside of the display plate; and
a support provided between the board and the knob to support the knob at a slant with respect to the backside of the control panel, wherein the support makes one side of the rear end of the knob adhere closely to the backside of the display plate while the other side of the rear end of the knob is separated from the backside of the control panel.

13. (Previously Presented) The control panel assembly as claimed in claim 12, wherein a top of the rear end of the knob is brought into line-contact with the backside of the display plate.

14. (Original) The control panel assembly as claimed in claim 12, wherein a rear end surface of the knob and the backside of the control panel are arranged to differ in angles.

15. (Previously Presented) The control panel assembly as claimed in claim 12, wherein the knob comprises a flange extending from a circumference of a rear end thereof, and wherein the flange makes line-contact with the backside of the display plate.

16. (Original) The control panel assembly as claimed in claim 15, wherein a front side of the flange and the backside of the control panel are arranged to differ in angles.

17-19. Canceled.

20. (Currently Amended) The control panel assembly as claimed in claim 12 [[17]], wherein the support encloses the switch.

21. (Currently Amended) The control panel assembly as claimed in claim 12 [[17]], wherein the support comprises a first face extending inward from an inner circumference of the support to support the rear end of the knob at a slant with respect to the backside of the control panel.

22. (Currently Amended) The control panel assembly as claimed in claim 12 [[17]], wherein the support comprises a cut-away portion provided at one side of the support to reduce a contact area between the rear end of the knob and the support.

23. (Currently Amended) The control panel assembly as claimed in claim 12 [[17]], further comprising:

a light-emitting member provided on the board; and

at least one aperture provided in the support to transmit light emitted from the light-emitting member.

24-25. Canceled.

26. (Currently Amended) A control panel assembly of a washing machine, comprising:

a board having a switch and parts mounted thereon;

a control panel installed at one side of a cabinet of the washing machine wherein the control panel covers and protects the board, the control panel having an opening;

a display plate provided on the control panel at the opening and having a hole at a center of the display plate; ~~and~~

a knob connected to the switch to penetrate the opening of the control panel, wherein a rear end of the knob partially contacts a backside of the display plate; and

a support provided between the board and the knob, wherein the support comprises a first face extending inward from an inner circumference of the support to support the rear end of the knob at a slant with respect to the backside of the control panel.

27. Canceled.

28. (New) The control panel assembly of a washing machine as claimed in claim 26, wherein the support makes one side of the rear end of the knob adhere closely to the backside of the display plate while the other side of the rear end of the knob is separated from the backside of the control panel.

29. (New) The control panel assembly of a washing machine as claimed in claim 28, wherein a top of the rear end of the knob is brought into line-contact with the backside of the display plate.